Statement

	Post Matric Scholarship to SC & ST students	Book Banks for SCs/STs	Construction of Hostels for SC Girls	Construction of Hostels for SC Boys	Up-gradation of merit of SC/ST students	Juvenile Justice
Utilisation (Rs. in lakhs)						
1998-99	297.15	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Not Reed.
1999-2000	N.A-	0.575	3.50	5.00	.3.45	Nil
2000-01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Coverage						
1998-99	„0.720	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Not Reed.
1999-2000	J. *60,17 UP)*	138	70/14	50/10	N.A.	N.A.
2000-01	Nfl	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	N.A.

Backlog of vacancies reserved for SCs/STs

898. VEN'BLE DHAMMA VTRIYO:Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebrations Committee recommended filling the backlog of vacancies reserved for the SCs/STs in 1993;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon by her Ministry and the results achieved; and

(c) the number of vacancies reserved for SCs/STs which remained unfilled as on 1st January, 1993 and 29th August, 1997 in Class I, II, III and IV category under her Ministry and *its* autonomous/statutory/attached offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebration Committee suggested the methodology to be adopted in situation where the backlog is very high and adequate number of candidates from the reserved communities with the prescribed qualification are not available. The methodology was to relax the minimum qualification and to make provision for giving them special training to enable them to perform their functions effectively.

(b) Jt is not possible to give relaxation in the basic academic qualification, as it would be against the spirit of Article 235 of the Constitution. However, relaxations have been provided in the matter of general standard and experience and the Ministry is taking appropriate action for special in—service training.

(c) The relevant information is as follows:

Category	As on	01.0U9M	As on 25.08.1 *m*	
SC	ST	*SC*	ST	
Class-I	12	04	06	04
Class-II	05	05	07	09
Class-Ill	08	08	16	10
Class-IV	10	06	01	08

Upliftment of handicapped and widows

899. PROF. MM. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any plans and programmes under consideration of Government to uplift the conditions of handicapped and widows in the country;

(b) if so, the full details thereof; and

(c) the details of funds allotted during me current budget under these schemes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) A number of schemes are already being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to uplift the conditions of persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities. During the current financial year, 2000-01, provision of Rs. 230.10 crore (plan) and Rs. 31.05 crore (Non-Plan) has been provided for the disability sector. In addition, Rs. 31.70 crore (Plan) is earmarked for North-East region. No State-wise funds are earmarked.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Women and Child Development is implementing the under-mentioned schemes wherein preference is given to the marginalized women:

(i) Setting up of Employment-cum-Income generating units for women (NORAD). A provision of Rs. 13.00 crore has been made in their budget during the current financial year, 2000-01.